



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EST (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - February 11, 2002

- ***In the West***, temperatures are rebounding to above-normal levels in ***California and the Southwest***, following a three-week cool spell. Gusty “Santa Ana” winds are accompanying the warmth across portions of ***southern California***, fanning localized brush fires.
- ***On the Plains***, mild, dry weather is aiding winter wheat from ***Texas to southern Nebraska***, but aggravating the effects of long-term drought and frequent high winds on wheat from ***western Nebraska through Montana***. Portions of the ***northern and central High Plains*** are recovering from a brief but intense weekend blizzard that stressed livestock and disrupted travel, but provided little moisture.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, mild weather is overspreading ***western portions of the region***, where today’s high temperatures will approach 50 degrees F. Meanwhile, cool, blustery conditions are affecting the ***eastern Corn Belt***.
- ***In the South***, showers linger across ***southern Florida***. Elsewhere in the region, cool weather is temporarily slowing pasture and winter grain development. Soil moisture remains adequate to locally surplus ***west of the Appalachians***, but long-term drought remains a concern in the ***southern Atlantic region***.

Outlook: A fairly tranquil weather pattern is expected across the U.S. for the remainder of the week. Mild weather will return to the ***Plains and Midwest***, but cool conditions will linger across the ***South***. Light precipitation will be confined to ***Florida***, the ***Northwest***, and areas from the ***Great Lakes States into the Northeast***, while dry weather is forecast elsewhere. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for February 16-20 calls for above-normal temperatures across the ***eastern half of the U.S.***, but cooler-than-normal weather from the ***High Plains westward***. Wet weather is expected nearly nationwide, except in ***southern Atlantic States***, where little or no rainfall is forecast.

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